#### NARBERTH BOROUGH

### BOROUGH COUNCIL

## MONTGOMERY COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA

A public hearing was held before the Narberth Borough Council, in Narberth Borough, Montgomery County, Pennsylvania, at the Narberth Borough Municipal Building, 100 Conway Avenue, Narberth, Pennsylvania, on Monday, January 12, 2015, commencing at 7:00 p.m., for the Narberth Borough Council Meeting.

#### BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

AARON MUDERICK, Acting President MICHAEL S. QUINN CHARLES SILIO GIGI TEVLIN-MOFFAT ROBERT WEISBORD RICHARD DIAZ

#### ALSO PRESENT:

THOMAS GRADY, Mayor WILLIAM MARTIN, Borough Manager

### COUNSEL APPEARED AS FOLLOWS:

MARC D. JONAS, ESQUIRE Solicitor for the Borough

## ALSO PRESENT:

THOMAS GRADY, Mayor WILLIAM MARTIN, Borough Manager

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# I N D E X

# RESIDENT

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- THE PRESIDENT: Good evening,
- 3 everyone. Thanks for coming. I refer everyone to
- 4 the printed agenda that's been handed out. There
- 5 is going to be some deviation. I'll tell you how
- 6 this going to go tonight.
- 7 After we get through No. 5,
- 8 the reports of the mayor through the manager,
- 9 we're going to skip up to No. 10, Ordinances for
- 10 enactment. We're going to take public comment on
- 11 that issue alone, and then Council is going to
- 12 take some further action to discuss that
- 13 Ordinance. After that gets disposed of, we will
- 14 then go back to the Agenda Item No. 6, the
- 15 reports of the standing committees, and then
- 16 there will be further opportunity for public
- 17 comment for items not involving Agenda Item No.
- 18 10.
- 19 So, typically, at the first
- 20 meeting of the new year, we do all kinds of
- 21 things. We have a lot of people to swear in
- 22 tonight, and we're going to do that early on, but
- 23 I wanted to give you a brief synopsis of what's
- 24 going on in your town in the past year and what's
- 25 coming up this year.

- With regard to succession
- 3 planning that we've been dealing with under
- 4 Councilman Wegbreit's leadership for the past
- 5 year, later tonight, we'll be introducing your
- 6 new assistant Borough manager, who's here in the
- 7 audience tonight.
- 8 With the finance department,
- 9 administration under Councilman Silio, I'm proud
- 10 to announce again that the 2015 budget has come
- 11 in with no tax increase for the fifth year in a
- 12 row. Congratulations are due to Mr. Martin and
- 13 the staff and to the finance committee. That's a
- 14 huge accomplishment.
- Our Public Safety Committee
- 16 under Vice-president Muderick has been conducting
- 17 negotiations with the Lower Merion FOP Lodge 29,
- 18 and we believe we have an agreement in principle
- 19 for a new police contract, and I think it's in
- 20 the final drafting and editing stages. So
- 21 congratulations to Vice-president Muderick and
- 22 his able legal team.
- 23 With regard to the public
- 24 works, once again, that seems to have the lion's
- 25 share of the activity going on. The big item for

- 2 this year is we hope to start the demolition and
- 3 construction of the new bridge over the railroad
- 4 tracks on North Narberth Avenue. Watch for
- 5 opportunities to influence and have a say in the
- 6 public art aspect of that, again, being handled
- 7 by Councilman Wegbreit and others on the
- 8 committee, as well as some interested and
- 9 qualified citizens.
- In addition, there are
- 11 several ongoing pedestrian and traffic safety
- 12 measures in collaboration with Mayor Grady, the
- 13 police department, and other local, state, and
- 14 federal entities.
- Moving along to the Property
- 16 Committee underneath Councilman Diaz, they'll be
- 17 taking a comprehensive look at the recreational
- 18 and community assets of the Borough, some of
- 19 which will be discussed later this evening. They
- 20 should be congratulated on successful management
- 21 in 2014 of the 201 Sabine building, and thanks to
- 22 Mr. Martin as well and our property manager.
- 23 In the coming year, we will
- 24 be negotiating some tenant leases and will be
- 25 installing an elevator in the building that will

- 2 help us qualify for some emergency management
- 3 issues as an alternate to this site, should the
- 4 need arise, and also provide access to previously
- 5 unused sections of the building.
- 6 Building and zoning under
- 7 Councilman Weisbord has had a busy year, and I'm
- 8 happy to report that a draft form code has been
- 9 completed and will be reviewed by Council and the
- 10 Planning Commission, and there will be
- 11 significant opportunities for the public to weigh
- 12 in in the coming months. And all of these issues
- 13 of the various committee chairs get addressed
- 14 later on in the reports tonight.
- 15 Finally, economic
- 16 development. That's Councilwoman Gigi
- 17 Tevlin-Moffat. We welcome her to her first full
- 18 year. For those of you who don't recognize her,
- 19 her picture is on the front of our Borough
- 20 newsletter. If you didn't get a copy, they're
- 21 available downstairs by the front doors and they
- 22 have a very handy calendar in there.
- So they had another
- 24 successful year of events and festivals in the
- 25 town. And later this evening, Ed Ridgeway, who

- 2 is a consultant to the Borough in many aspects
- 3 will be presenting a check to the Narberth Fire
- 4 Department for what I understand is \$5,000, as a
- 5 result of the Oktoberfest, and another 5,000 I
- 6 believe goes to the Narberth Business Association
- 7 and helps runs the Dicken's Festival and some of
- 8 the other events that we had. So I thank
- 9 everyone on that team for another successful
- 10 year.
- 11 Finally, our Parking
- 12 Committee is looking at some commercial area and
- 13 efficiencies under Councilman Silio. So with
- 14 that, I will move on to the agenda once again.
- 15 Agenda item No. 4, upon
- 16 consideration of the minutes of December 3rd,
- 17 2015, caucus meeting of Council. Can I have a
- 18 motion?
- 19 MR. MUDERICK: So moved.
- 20 **THE PRESIDENT:** Can I have a
- 21 second?
- MS. TEVLIN-MOFFAT: Second.
- THE PRESIDENT: Any discussion
- 24 of the minutes of December 3rd, 2015?
- 25 (No response.)

- THE PRESIDENT: All those in
- 3 favor of approving say aye.
- 4 MR. MUDERICK: Aye.
- 5 MR. WEGBREIT: Aye.
- 6 MR. WEISBORD: Aye.
- 7 MR. SILIO: Aye.
- 8 MR. DIAZ: Aye.
- 9 MS. TEVLIN-MOFFAT: Aye.
- THE PRESIDENT: Aye.
- 11 Motion passes and minutes are
- 12 approved.
- Next up is the December 8,
- 14 regular meeting of Borough Council. Can I have a
- 15 motion?
- MR. SILIO: So moved.
- 17 THE PRESIDENT: Second.
- MS. TEVLIN-MOFFAT: I second.
- THE PRESIDENT: Any
- 20 discussion?
- 21 (No response.)
- 22 All those in favor of approving the minutes of
- 23 December 8, please say aye.
- 24 MR. MUDERICK: Aye.
- MR. WEGBREIT: Aye.

- MR. WEISBORD: Aye.
- 3 MR. SILIO: Aye.
- 4 MR. DIAZ: Aye.
- 5 MS. TEVLIN-MOFFAT: Aye.
- 6 THE PRESIDENT: Aye.
- 7 Motion passes.
- Next up on the agenda is No.
- 9 5.
- Mr. Mayor, do you have a
- 11 report?
- 12 THE MAYOR: Thank you, Council
- 13 President.
- 14 Welcome, everyone. I have
- 15 the great pleasure tonight to swear in our new
- 16 commission members. I would like Agnes Love, who
- 17 we will be greeting to the Recreation Board, to
- 18 come up; W. Joseph Duckworth, who is going to be
- 19 on our Zoning Hearing Board; James R. Nixon, with
- 20 the Narberth Borough Industrial Development
- 21 Authority; Doris Lonsdorf, with the Library
- 22 Board; Roderick McGiven, with the Police Pension
- 23 Trustee; and James Speer with the Vacancy Board.
- THE PRESIDENT: Marlene
- 25 Richmond is our alternate for the Zoning Hearing

- 2 Board.
- 3 **THE MAYOR:** Marlene
- 4 volunteered for the Zoning Board.
- 5 The last item of business I
- 6 have, from time to time, we have a town hall, in
- 7 our town, to hear people's viewpoints. I'm going
- 8 to be holding a town hall on Wednesday,
- 9 January 21, next week, and we're going to talk
- 10 about public spaces and what people's vision of
- 11 Narberth and downtown is. I would like to hear
- 12 from people. You're going to hear my vision, I
- 13 want to hear your vision. We're going to talk
- 14 about what we want from our downtown, what do we
- 15 expect to give future generations from our
- 16 downtown as well. It's an informal meeting.
- 17 Everyone gets the opportunity. So if you don't
- 18 have enough time to say what you want to say
- 19 tonight, please come to the town hall meeting,
- 20 Wednesday, January 21st, at 7:00 o'clock, in the
- 21 Borough Hall, right across the way.
- THE PRESIDENT: Anyone who
- 23 wants to speak tonight, I'm sure everyone is here
- 24 for Forrest Avenue, give us your name and address,
- 25 residence, taxpayers.

- Do you have anything else,
- 3 Mr. Mayor?
- 4 THE MAYOR: Nothing else.
- 5 Thank you.
- 6 THE PRESIDENT: Any Council
- 7 members have any questions for Mayor Grady?
- 8 (No response.)
- 9 THE PRESIDENT: Next up would
- 10 be Ed Ridgeway presentation to the Narberth
- 11 Borough Fire Company.
- 12 MR. RIDGEWAY: For the fourth
- 13 year, the Narberth Business Association and the
- 14 Narberth Fire Department have partnered in an
- 15 event called Narberth Oktoberfest. We managed to
- 16 raise \$10,000 this year -- five thousand went to
- 17 Narberth Dicken's Festival, and I'd like to
- 18 present Mr. Henderson with this check for \$5,000
- 19 for the Narberth Fire Department.
- THE PRESIDENT: Next up, I saw
- 21 Mrs. Waters in the audience. So I'll ask her for
- 22 the library report.
- 23 MS. WATERS: Since we're
- 24 talking about money, the library was very
- 25 successful with their recent fund drive. We

- 2 raised just under \$14,000. So for all of you in
- 3 the community who helped us out, we are very, very
- 4 grateful. We feel really good about it. The
- 5 community is so supportive.
- Also, speaking of beer that
- 7 you just mentioned, we are going to have our
- 8 third annual "Librewery," which is beer tasting
- 9 at the Merion Tribute House. It will be on March
- 10 13th. I frankly forget the time, but I will be
- 11 sending out a brochure to all of you about that.
- 12 So mark down Friday, the 13th, in March, we're
- 13 not superstitious. That's it.
- 14 THE PRESIDENT: Very good.
- 15 Thank you, Mrs. Water. Anything you would like to
- 16 say while you have such a big audience here?
- MS. WATERS: Come to
- 18 Librewery.
- 19 **THE PRESIDENT:** Thank you.
- 20 Next up, I'm going to skip the treasurer report,
- 21 and there is no tax collector's report.
- Next up is the solicitor.
- Do you have anything to
- 24 report?
- 25 MR. JONAS: I do not.

- THE PRESIDENT: Mr. Martin, do
- 3 you have a Borough manager report?
- 4 MR. MARTIN: Not at this time.
- 5 **THE PRESIDENT:** That list that
- 6 was going around, the sign-ups, is that anywhere
- 7 near done or can you hand up part of it or a page
- 8 of it? Are we on the first page?
- 9 MS. TEVLIN-MOFFAT: Yeah.
- 10 **THE PRESIDENT:** Just a couple
- 11 ground rules. This particular public comment
- 12 section will be limited to the 100 Forrest Avenue.
- 13 You must be a resident or a taxpayer, and try to
- 14 keep your comments to three minutes, if you can.
- You're going to have to give
- 16 your name and address. We'll have a list. So
- 17 we'll have that written down, but we'll ask them
- 18 when they come up.
- I've got some letters on the
- 20 table.
- Is Mr. McGreevey in
- 22 attendance?
- 23 MR. McGREEVEY: Yes, I am.
- THE PRESIDENT: Mr. McGreevey,
- 25 I'm going to make your letter part of the record

- 2 and ask that you, you know, take the letter back
- 3 and read it or you can make it a part of the
- 4 record and you can still address. How would you
- 5 like to handle that?
- 6 MR. McGREEVEY: Yeah. I was
- 7 planning to speak later, so however.
- 8 THE PRESIDENT: You're topic
- 9 is about Forrest Avenue; right?
- 10 MR. McGREEVEY: That's right.
- 11 THE PRESIDENT: Well, you can
- 12 make your comments. If you need the letter, do it
- 13 during this portion.
- 14 Mr. Myers, I have a letter.
- 15 Is that okay, when the time comes, for you to
- 16 speak and then we'll make that a part of the
- 17 record?
- 18 MR. MYERS: Sure. If everyone
- 19 has covered mine, I'll make it real short.
- 20 **THE PRESIDENT:** And then I
- 21 also have a Kimberly Neff. Is Kimberly here?
- MS. NEFF: Yes. I submitted
- 23 that anonymously, but, yes, it's me.
- 24 THE PRESIDENT: Well, you
- 25 submitted it again. I can make it a part of the

- 2 record in the minutes and available, and you can
- 3 make some comments tonight if you wish, however
- 4 you want to do it.
- 5 MS. NEFF: Yeah. I figured
- 6 you would read that. Do I have to read it?
- 7 THE PRESIDENT: You don't have
- 8 to read it. I'll deal with that when the time
- 9 comes.
- 10 MR. WEGBREIT: Let's get the
- 11 list up here.
- THE PRESIDENT: Dennis, did
- 13 you want to comment tonight?
- 14 MR. MONTAGNA: No.
- THE PRESIDENT: One other
- 16 thing, I'm going to start with Ms. Boise in a
- 17 minute. But if what you want to say has
- 18 essentially been said by someone else, you know,
- 19 feel free to say, I agree with what so-and-so said
- 20 or I'm in support of Borough Council or the
- 21 property owner, you know, just to try to move
- 22 things along.
- 23 Before I get started, just as
- 24 a brief update, the Borough has had a couple of
- 25 what we feel were productive meetings with the

- 2 owner, Mr. Ken Coil and his wife. Prior, manager
- 3 and solicitor met with him. Yesterday evening,
- 4 Councilman Wegbreit and Councilman Diaz, who is
- 5 head of the Property Committee and the Property
- 6 Committee is assigned to this matter, met with
- 7 Mr. Coil about Council making an executive
- 8 session the other night on the issue, and we met
- 9 in executive session for an hour this evening
- 10 before the meeting. And Council was encouraged,
- 11 I think, by the reports of Councilman Diaz and
- 12 Wegbreit, before anything, any decisions are
- 13 taken or any next steps, I think both sides --
- 14 and, Mr. Coil, correct me if I'm wrong. We want
- 15 to see the results of some remediation reports
- 16 and environmental things. So that may serve to
- 17 slow down so all the parties have a full
- 18 understanding as to that issue. And Council
- 19 fully intend to continue a dialogue with the
- 20 owners of the property.
- 21 So that being said, perhaps,
- 22 maybe I'll start off with Mr. Coil. And if you
- 23 would like to address the Council?
- 24 MR. COIL: I'll address
- 25 Council and all the great people of Narberth who

- 2 came here to support me or just get an idea of
- 3 what's going on.
- I thought I'd just give a
- 5 timeline of what actually happened.
- THE PRESIDENT: I'm sorry.
- 7 Mr. Coil, could you give your name and address for
- 8 the record?
- 9 MR. COIL: Kenneth Coil 1108,
- 10 Stony Lane, Gladwyne, Pennsylvania 19035.
- 11 **THE PRESIDENT:** And he's also
- 12 the owner of 100 Forrest Avenue, Narberth;
- 13 correct?
- 14 MR. COIL: 19007.
- 15 THE PRESIDENT: Thank you.
- 16 Sorry to interrupt.
- MR. COIL: To start, this
- 18 entire operation started last January. My brother
- 19 had passed away and he gave the station to my
- 20 niece, and I was executor of the will, and I
- 21 controlled the assets of his property.
- He tried to sell the property
- 23 for years, when Richard was there, and he
- 24 couldn't get any takers, nobody was interested,
- 25 because there's a chemical -- it had a gas spill

- 2 twenty-some years ago. But we had the tanks
- 3 replaced and remediation was done at that time.
- 4 But no one wanted to take the risk. So Richard
- 5 was getting ill, the place was going in
- 6 disrepair. So I thought this would be a great
- 7 opportunity for me to take it over, repair it,
- 8 and start a gym.
- 9 I have a gym in Ardmore. I
- 10 have a house in Ardmore that I rent out and
- 11 teaching and training people at night every day
- 12 of the week and doing a construction business
- 13 during the daytime. I decided that I had it with
- 14 the construction business, and I'd take my
- 15 talents and open up a gym in Narberth.
- Richard passed away. I
- 17 immediately contacted my niece. I said, I'd like
- 18 to take this. She said, okay, we'll work out the
- 19 arrangements of the financing, and then I
- 20 proceeded.
- 21 I borrowed money to do the
- 22 renovations until my house in Ardmore sold and my
- 23 gym. Once I had enough money, I continued to
- 24 work on the house, I mean, on the garage, and
- 25 then I finally sold the house, paid everybody

- 2 back that I borrowed from, and continued my
- 3 renovations, and was coming down I think it was
- 4 in April.
- 5 So we're in April. I have
- 6 approvals for my blueprints from Yerkes. I have
- 7 permit applications all approved. And so I
- 8 proceeded on the good faith with full knowledge
- 9 of the Borough to proceed.
- In May 8th, the Borough had a
- 11 meeting in the room next door that they invited
- 12 the public to, which I came to and introduced
- 13 myself, explained to everybody what I was doing.
- 14 Borough Council, which was listed on this
- 15 invitation, was there. And I think Ed Ridgeway
- 16 was there, Danny was there. And I explained what
- 17 I was doing, and they all congratulated me and
- 18 thought it would be a great thing. This is in
- 19 May.
- So I proceed and continued
- 21 and kept working and putting this thing together,
- 22 and it came to the point where my niece was
- 23 selling her house. So she was moving on. I sold
- 24 my house. I had the money to buy her out. And
- 25 we were in November. It came down to the final

- 2 times to take possession, ownership. The
- 3 Borough, which I still don't know how they did
- 4 it, but they put an offer in to my niece for
- 5 350,000, which was a lot more than I was buying
- 6 it for. I had three days to respond. I found
- 7 it. I got the \$200,000 and bought the property,
- 8 otherwise, I'd have to -- my nieces would have to
- 9 give me the hundred thousand that I had already
- 10 invested in the property and it would be a big
- 11 mess and I'd lose my gym totally. So I
- 12 proceeded.
- 13 At that time Marc Jonas
- 14 called my niece's lawyer and stated, asked, what
- 15 is going on? She said, well, I sold it to my
- 16 uncle. He said, okay. With that, we're going to
- 17 pursue eminent domain. My niece's lawyer
- 18 contacted me and says, you have to be made aware
- 19 this is what they plan on doing. I said, all
- 20 right, I'm still going to buy the property from
- 21 you. I have too much invested. I can't just let
- 22 it go. So I proceeded to buy it.
- 23 The week after that I saw the
- 24 notice in the Main Line Times. I assume almost
- 25 all of you have. And it states in there that

- 2 they wanted to use it for a staging area and I
- 3 guess what else was it, parking, which was kind
- 4 of interesting to me at the time, because we've
- 5 been allowing the Borough to use it as a staging
- 6 area for the last twenty-some years and whatever
- 7 they wanted on those special days.
- 8 So I responded by contacting
- 9 Cheryl, and told her the story, and she published
- 10 it in the Main Line Times, and I'm assuming
- 11 that's where you guys might have gotten your
- 12 information, plus, I did an open letter to
- 13 Facebook, the Main Line Times, and to some other
- 14 outlets I used.
- Then I got a letter, shortly
- 16 after that, from my attorney stating -- I'll just
- 17 read it. This is for historical purposes so
- 18 everybody who's been back and forth on the
- 19 internet and getting questions and no one has
- 20 contacted me. I put my phone number on there.
- 21 So if you ever wanted to, you could. It goes,
- 22 Dear Ken, I received a phone call December 29th,
- 23 from Marc Jonas, the Narberth Borough solicitor.
- 24 He asked you -- he asked that you contact the
- 25 Borough manager, Bill Martin. He said that the

- 2 Borough is interested in leasing the property for
- 3 special events and would prefer to do that
- 4 instead of acquiring the property. He also said
- 5 the Borough wanted to make sure that the removal
- 6 of the gas tanks was done correctly. I told him
- 7 I would pass this information onto you. If
- 8 there's anything I can do to assist you, please
- 9 contact me.
- 10 Sincerely, Daniel S. Coval,
- 11 Esquire.
- I was excited. I was very
- 13 happy. I thought the eminent domain thing was
- 14 put to bed.
- I showed up last Wednesday
- 16 and thanked this Council. And to their surprise,
- 17 they knew nothing of the letter. They knew
- 18 nothing of this. So I'm back to square one.
- 19 Then I got a phone call from
- 20 Mr. Diaz and Mr. Wegbreit, and we had a pretty
- 21 interesting meeting last night, and I think we
- 22 had accomplished some ideas, and that's where we
- 23 stand today.
- I still don't want to give up
- 25 my property, but I'm willing to lease the front.

- 2 We can upgrade it together. We can make it a
- 3 nice look for the Borough. But I really don't
- 4 want to let go of my property. It's my
- 5 investment. I have now about \$500,000 of my own
- 6 money invested in it, and it's kind of hard. I
- 7 sold my other house, my other gym. I planned on
- 8 doing this.
- 9 So I find it a bit unfair,
- 10 since I had approvals for permits. You knew what
- 11 I was doing. It seems like one hand doesn't know
- 12 what the other one is doing. It's a little
- 13 upsetting to me. And I hope with your support we
- 14 can work out something with the Council and the
- 15 people of Narberth to make this so I can continue
- 16 to own my property and you guys can get what you
- 17 desire out of using the front for all your events
- 18 all the time.
- THE PRESIDENT: Thank you,
- 20 Mr. Coil.
- MR. COIL: Any questions?
- THE PRESIDENT: Let me move on
- 23 next. That would be my call.
- MR. COIL: Sorry.
- 25 **THE PRESIDENT:** That's okay.

- 2 Next we'll move on to Stephen Gallagher.
- Hi, Steve.
- 4 MR. GALLAGHER: Hi, Sam.
- 5 **THE PRESIDENT:** Can you give
- 6 your address for the court reporter?
- 7 MR. GALLAGHER: 213 North
- 8 Narberth Avenue.
- 9 THE PRESIDENT: Go ahead.
- 10 MR. GALLAGHER: My family has
- 11 been here since 1926. And I guess I pick up on
- 12 the internet, all that was just explained. And I
- 13 just have a deep feeling against Narberth getting
- 14 involved in eminent domain for something that's
- 15 not related to security and things like that like.
- 16 If the bridge had to move some properties because
- 17 we needed a new bridge, that would be a
- 18 reasonable-type thing.
- 19 I've gotten to the age where
- 20 I'm looking for Borough Council to help save
- 21 taxes, and, you know, that type of thing, and to
- 22 invest in something that might be an
- 23 environmental issue. I would leave that on the
- 24 property owner. I wouldn't want to get involved
- 25 in that in any way. This is great from last

- 2 night, leasing for use or whatever. I've never
- 3 been told what makes this so valuable that we
- 4 should invest in the middle of Narberth. I'd
- 5 rather see you turning the lights off, you know,
- 6 at 6:00 o'clock at night instead of 8:00 o'clock
- 7 at night down at the playground to save some
- 8 money. Thanks for having me.
- 9 THE PRESIDENT: Thank you,
- 10 Steve. You're always welcomed.
- 11 Next up, Jeff Asay.
- MR. ASAY: Jeff Asay,
- 13 Narberth, 133 Merion.
- 14 Probably a lot of you have
- 15 seen comments I have written on Facebook. I
- 16 write a lot, type a lot, probably too much. I
- 17 was hoping that we would get a chance to hear
- 18 what the proposed use of the property is and more
- 19 detail as some people had said would be presented
- 20 before our comment period, but apparently that's
- 21 not the case.
- My comment to the Council is
- 23 that eminent domain is, in my mind, a last-ditch
- 24 effort for important things like bridges, for
- 25 things like putting together an interstate

- 2 highway system. If our town was 50 percent real
- 3 estate not rented and we were a depressed town, I
- 4 could see doing private development and doing
- 5 something to try to revive the economy. I don't
- 6 see that here. I see a private citizen that is
- 7 trying to open a business. He seems to be doing
- 8 all the things that he should be doing. It's not
- 9 a derelict property with broken windows that's
- 10 falling apart. He's investing his own money. I
- 11 think he should be allowed to proceed without
- 12 interference from government. That's basically
- 13 the gist of it. Thanks for your time.
- 14 THE PRESIDENT: Thanks, Jeff.
- 15 Heidi Boise.
- 16 MS. BOISE: Yeah. I just want
- 17 to say I'm quite certain that Council has put a
- 18 lot of time and energy in this, and I value that
- 19 time and energy. And as somebody who's interested
- 20 in the fabric of Narberth -- also, I forgot to
- 21 say, I'm 306 Grayling Avenue, sorry.
- I value the fabric of the
- 23 downtown. I think Station Circle and this
- 24 property together create an open space that is
- 25 invaluable. We have no other open space in

- 2 Narberth, except if you go down to the
- 3 playground. We really could use a space in the
- 4 center of town that's really thought about in a
- 5 cohesive way and how it relates to pedestrian
- 6 traffic, the street fares that we have in
- 7 Narberth. I'm not sure what the gentleman who
- 8 owns the property is thinking about with regard
- 9 to the gym. I think a gym is a fine use for the
- 10 building and that the apron around it could be,
- 11 perhaps, redeveloped in some way and keep a small
- 12 building there, whether it's the building that's
- 13 there or something similar or reconfigured.
- 14 The site is oriented south,
- 15 so you get really nice sunlight. And it's really
- 16 just an opportunity that I hate to see missed if
- 17 the property were to be sold, if it were to be
- 18 developed. We're working on a formal Zoning Code
- 19 right now which addresses the kind of structures
- 20 that could be in the downtown. And I encourage
- 21 Borough Council to look at the formal Zoning Code
- 22 as it relates to this particular property and
- 23 imagine what could go there if it's not salvaged
- 24 or thought about this time on a larger scheme.
- 25 **THE PRESIDENT:** Just to

- 2 comment briefly, I don't know that there's any
- 3 plans for the sale from the owner. I mean, that's
- 4 past. There is a new owner, Mr. Coil, who just
- 5 spoke.
- 6 MS. BOISE: I understand. I'm
- 7 just thinking down the road that part of the
- 8 bigger picture should be consideration for how the
- 9 property could be developed.
- 10 **THE PRESIDENT:** If down the
- 11 road, if it becomes available via private sale,
- 12 you might be in favor of it at that point?
- MS. BOISE: I might be in
- 14 favor of keeping it open.
- 15 **THE PRESIDENT:** Of having the
- 16 Borough --
- MS. BOISE: I'm very much in
- 18 favor for however it happens, that it be
- 19 maintained as open space.
- THE PRESIDENT: Thank you.
- 21 Next up is I think it's Ken Krivitzky.
- 22 Ken, could you give us your
- 23 address?
- 24 MR. KRIVITSKY: 1 Woodside
- 25 Avenue, in Narberth.

- I want to go with what Jeff
- 3 said a moment ago. In that, it's very hard to
- 4 give comments without hearing the full picture of
- 5 what the Borough's use is.
- I will say in general I'm for
- 7 eminent domain in extreme cases. Taking over a
- 8 property like this does not strike me as an
- 9 extreme case, but without hearing from Borough
- 10 Council what the vision is, it's very hard to
- 11 have that conversation. I tried to raise my hand
- 12 earlier to ask that question, to say more than
- 13 that.
- 14 **THE PRESIDENT:** We think there
- 15 will be more opportunities to hear Council and the
- 16 members of the community weigh in about the
- 17 various uses that are being considered. Part of
- 18 the reason, you know, for doing it this way is to
- 19 comply with legal requirements and the procedures
- 20 that we need to follow. And it is important that
- 21 we hear your input. We know, you know, everyone
- 22 wants to hear more information, and we think that
- 23 will be forthcoming.
- Let me move on.
- 25 Mr. McGreevey, you have the letter here. Would

- 2 you mind addressing us, and I'll make it a part
- 3 of the record?
- 4 MR. McGREEVEY: Rob McGreevey,
- 5 149 Merion Avenue. Do I need to read the letter?
- 6 **THE PRESIDENT:** Whatever you
- 7 want. If you would like to read it, that would
- 8 save me, or you can summarize the salient points
- 9 and then we can make it a part of the record.
- MR. McGREEVEY: Well, I'd like
- 11 to speak to the value of this particular space
- 12 that strikes me as a once-in-a-lifetime
- 13 opportunity to create something of a public square
- 14 in the downtown by the train station. And there
- 15 may be various ways to get there. One possibility
- 16 could be eminent domain and one possibility could
- 17 be as suggested by the owner, some sort of
- 18 compromise.
- 19 But to my mind, I think it
- 20 was Heidi Boise that spoke to the fabric of the
- 21 Town, and I see -- I'm a historian, I should say,
- 22 of the US 20th Century, and I've seen eminent
- 23 domain used in ways that were not justified. But
- 24 in this instance, because we have the opportunity
- 25 to create a public space in the center that would

- 2 adversely affect a single private owner, as much
- 3 as I empathize with the owner, it is justifiable.
- 4 To my mind, it benefits the public good. But I
- 5 would say it's very hard to speak to this without
- 6 a plan.
- 7 But I could imagine a green
- 8 space that could be a lively center of downtown
- 9 that could benefit the businesses throughout the
- 10 Commercial District, where we could have tables
- 11 and umbrellas in the summer, in the warmer
- 12 months, where people could eat their sandwiches
- 13 from McShea's take away or coffee from the cheese
- 14 shop or what-have-you. And I have seen this in
- 15 other towns and to me that's a public good that
- 16 could benefit the community, promote walk
- 17 ability, and create public spaces, which we
- 18 really surprisingly lack in this town.
- 19 So, in my letter, I basically
- 20 just give a couple examples of how eminent domain
- 21 has been used in ways that harmed hundreds of
- 22 families and destroyed entire neighborhoods. And
- 23 I think often that eminent domain gets a bad name
- 24 for that reason.
- 25 But in this particular

- 2 instance, I would like to still see it on the
- 3 table and as a tool kit for the Borough Council
- 4 to determine the best way to proceed.
- 5 THE PRESIDENT: Thank you.
- 6 Georgette DuBois.
- 7 MS. DuBOIS: It's fine with me
- 8 if you read that.
- 9 **THE PRESIDENT:** Read what?
- MS. DuBOIS: The letter --
- 11 **THE PRESIDENT:** What letter?
- 12 MS. DuBOIS: -- that I sent.
- 13 The E-mail that I sent asking that it be in the
- 14 public record.
- MR. MUDERICK: I have it.
- MS. DuBOIS: Okay. Do you
- 17 want to read it, Aaron?
- 18 MR. MUDERICK: Give me one
- 19 moment.
- Skip ahead and I'll queue it
- 21 up.
- 22 **THE PRESIDENT:** Sure. Jim
- 23 Cornwell.
- 24 MR. CORNWELL: Jim Cornwell,
- 25 115 Wynnedale Road, Narberth.

- THE PRESIDENT: Jim, could we
- 3 also add for the record your position with the
- 4 Borough?
- 5 MR. CORNWELL: I am the
- 6 chairman of the Planning Commission.
- 7 THE PRESIDENT: Thank you.
- 8 MR. CORNWELL: But I speak
- 9 as -- I do not speak for the Planning Commission
- 10 as I make these remarks.
- 11 THE PRESIDENT: Thank you.
- 12 MR. CORNWELL: Please be clear
- 13 about that.
- 14 I appreciate all the
- 15 discussion about the fabric of the town, which is
- 16 very near and dear to my heart. We're on the
- 17 verge of having an ordinance in this town that
- 18 will vastly improve our approach to public
- 19 spaces, I think, as a result of no less than
- 20 eight years of effort on the part of a large
- 21 group of Narberth residents.
- I would simply urge that if
- 23 Council proceeds with the concept of eminent
- 24 domain, that the language that is used to define
- 25 permitted uses be made broader than the words

- 2 that I have read so far, namely, a place for
- 3 staging public events, a place for parking, that
- 4 it would be an error in my understanding of the
- 5 language that's been drafted. But I would urge
- 6 that there be a broader definition of what
- 7 constitutes the public good, because there a
- 8 number of ways of approaching what is the best
- 9 use for this property.
- I do believe that this
- 11 gentleman who is proposing, who has built the gym
- 12 and is proposing to operate it has followed the
- 13 rules and deserves to operate his business.
- 14 That's the way I would feel were it mine based on
- 15 what I know is the history of this.
- 16 But if you choose to pursue
- 17 eminent domain, please make the definition as
- 18 broad as possible to encompass a variety of uses
- 19 that will remain as a group fine to be beneficial
- 20 for the town. Thank you.
- THE PRESIDENT: Are you ready,
- 22 Aaron?
- 23 MR. MUDERICK: Georgette, if
- 24 this is not the right letter, let me know.
- Dear Sam, et al,

- 2 As requested, I am sending
- 3 this e-mail to the attention of Borough Council
- 4 President Sam Quinn.
- 5 In the interest of clarifying
- 6 the situation with the former gas station
- 7 properties, it would be helpful to have whatever
- 8 information can be made public available at the
- 9 meeting tonight. I realize you may already be
- 10 planning to do this. If not, I'm requesting that
- 11 all relevant public documents going back to
- 12 March 2014, regarding plans for the property, be
- 13 available for public viewing at the meeting,
- 14 including permits, correspondence, public
- 15 notices, and costs to the Borough thus far, i.e.,
- 16 an itemized accounting of payment to Borough
- 17 solicitor cost of public notices, et cetera.
- 18 Please include any other relevant documentation.
- 19 I also request that whatever you provide be
- 20 scanned and posted on the Borough website. I
- 21 look forward to seeing tonight's agenda and I am
- 22 hopeful that the meeting be well attended and
- 23 productive.
- 24 Regards.
- Georgette DuBois, 111 Price

- 2 Avenue.
- 3 THE PRESIDENT: Thank you.
- 4 Andy Harkenson.
- 5 MR. HARKENSON: Andy
- 6 Harkenson, 203 Wayne.
- 7 I think the issues that
- 8 concern me have already been put out in one way
- 9 or another, including the cost, including what
- 10 you would do with the property if it were taken.
- 11 I also am concerned about the use of eminent
- 12 domain without looking for other solutions. But
- 13 I think the one main thing I would be concerned
- 14 about ultimately is what is it going to cost the
- 15 Borough?
- THE PRESIDENT: Thank you.
- 17 Kevin McCartney.
- 18 MR. McCARTNEY: Kevin
- 19 McCartney, 319 Grayling Avenue.
- 20 I'll make it short and sweet.
- 21 I know looking at this issue -- first of all, I'm
- 22 a landscape architect who does a lot of planning
- 23 for green space.
- 24 If it was my property and you
- 25 were trying to take it from me, I would be very

- 2 upset, especially if there were other avenues to
- 3 pursue. I don't think this is the right way.
- 4 Although I love green space, I just don't agree
- 5 with eminent domain being used. Thank you.
- 6 THE PRESIDENT: Thank you.
- 7 I will skip Kimberly.
- 8 Sean Sexton, 407.
- 9 Yes, Sean.
- MR. SEXTON: Sean Sexton, 407
- 11 Dudley Avenue.
- I'd simply like to say that I
- 13 strongly oppose the use of eminent domain in this
- 14 situation, especially considering that there's
- 15 not a specific plan that you presented. I think
- 16 it's a little bit strange that you've moved to
- 17 threaten a property owner with eminent domain.
- 18 You know, I see it as a threat to private
- 19 property. And if I were him, if I were running a
- 20 business and if he were pushing me around to sell
- 21 property and threatening eminent domain, I would
- 22 be really, really upset. So I take issue with
- 23 that.
- If it's a parking thing, I
- 25 don't think parking is really that big of a

- 2 problem in the downtown Borough. I don't see
- 3 that as an issue. You know, it would be nice to
- 4 have a beautiful public area, but he owns the
- 5 property. So unless he's willing to sell, I
- 6 don't really see what the argument is. He has
- 7 this property.
- 8 The cost I have an issue
- 9 with. I don't know what the dollar amount would
- 10 be, but that's taxpayer money. And it's not
- 11 going to be a revenue-generating property for the
- 12 Borough. It's a pure capital.
- Now, you can argue it's an
- 14 investment and over time it will yield more
- 15 taxes, et cetera, but it's not a
- 16 revenue-generating property for the Borough. So
- 17 the fact that you don't have a proposal as to
- 18 what exactly it is and that you're threatening
- 19 eminent domain, I have a big issue with, and
- 20 that's all I wanted to share.
- 21 **THE PRESIDENT:** Thank you.
- I'll take a brief moment to
- 23 summarize the one letter from a person who wanted
- 24 to remain anonymous.
- 25 MS. NEFF: It was me.

- THE PRESIDENT: What's your
- 3 address?
- 4 MS. NEFF: I'm at 407 Dudley,
- 5 and this is my husband who just spoke. So 407
- 6 Dudley is a house divided, because of what he
- 7 said, and the letter says what it says. So if you
- 8 want to summarize or read the whole thing,
- 9 whatever.
- 10 **THE PRESIDENT:** I'll make it a
- 11 part of the record.
- 12 MR. WEGBREIT: Is she in
- 13 support?
- MR. DIAZ: She represented she
- 15 has a different viewpoint.
- MR. MUDERICK: Why don't you
- 17 read it?
- 18 **THE PRESIDENT:** My opinion as
- 19 a concerned resident and someone with experience
- 20 working in economic development with downtown
- 21 districts is as follows: A gym is simply not a
- 22 business that is going to benefit the Commercial
- 23 District, especially a gym of this size. That
- 24 being said, I do not agree with the method of
- 25 simply taking the property against the will of the

- 2 current owners.
- 3 If the Borough has an
- 4 interest in the property and plans for
- 5 redevelopment of that site, either as a public
- 6 park or open space, I'm not sure what the plan is
- 7 currently. If the Borough has such a plan that
- 8 is overwhelmingly a public benefit, then and only
- 9 then do I agree with the seizure of the property.
- To take the property to
- 11 simply keep the footprint as is and use it to set
- 12 up tables for public events is not a good enough
- 13 reason. Events are not a sustainable or
- 14 effective method for driving foot traffic in our
- 15 town or a reason to take private property from
- 16 the owner.
- 17 With the circumstances being
- 18 what they are, I would be interested in seeing
- 19 the long-term plans from the Borough for the site
- 20 before I can fully support them in taking over
- 21 the property.
- 22 If there is, in fact, a
- 23 lovely open space that can enhance our town more
- 24 so than a personal training gym in an old gas
- 25 station, then I am willing to support that

- 2 initiative.
- 3 Hopefully, the property
- 4 owners can recognize the value of the property to
- 5 the Borough and come to a compromise to sell
- 6 without the use of eminent domain being enacted.
- 7 I think this scenario brings
- 8 attention to the fact that the Borough Business
- 9 Association and downtown business owners need to
- 10 work better together to develop a long-term
- 11 economic development plan for the District.
- 12 Property owners should be vocal, active
- 13 participants and partners with the business
- 14 owners and visionaries in this town to create a
- 15 thriving downtown that benefits everyone.
- I prefer to remain anonymous.
- 17 Rich, would you like to
- 18 summarize and address?
- MR. MYERS: I would.
- 20 **THE PRESIDENT:** This is Rich
- 21 Myers. I can tell you a very qualified and worthy
- 22 adversary in the legal arena.
- 23 MR. MYERS: You're very kind.
- 24 THE PRESIDENT: Your address,
- 25 Jim. I'm sorry.

- MR. MYERS: 111 Elmwood
- 3 Avenue.
- I see that the north side is
- 5 very well represented. Where's the south side?
- 6 The south side is very well
- 7 represented.
- 8 Where's the north side?
- 9 Okay.
- I do agree that eminent
- 11 domain should be the last resort here. I
- 12 encourage you to meet with the owner and see what
- 13 you can work out.
- I will tell you, I looked at
- 15 this, I looked at the case law with regard to
- 16 eminent domain. With all due respect to Mr.
- 17 Jonas, whatever advice that you've gotten, you
- 18 have not done it right. I urge you to withdrawal
- 19 the Ordinance until there is a specific plan,
- 20 which, frankly, I think is required these days,
- 21 and then have another meeting like this, if it
- 22 comes to that. And I'm hoping that it won't come
- 23 to that.
- 24 I don't know Mr. Coil. This
- 25 is the first time I've seen him. But the fact

- 2 that you're able to meet with him and that he's
- 3 able to meet with you suggests to me that you're
- 4 going to be able to work out something long term
- 5 without eminent domain and hopefully we can put
- 6 this all behind us.
- 7 THE PRESIDENT: I appreciate
- 8 that, and I'll let him off the hook on the
- 9 specific plan and take the hit for everyone on
- 10 that.
- MR. MYERS: Okay. That's
- 12 fine.
- THE PRESIDENT: I've been here
- 14 nine years. It's the first time I've seen you.
- 15 Thanks for coming.
- MR. MYERS: Well, my children
- 17 have now left the house.
- 18 **THE PRESIDENT:** Seriously,
- 19 thanks for your letter.
- MR. MYERS: You're welcome.
- 21 **THE PRESIDENT:** Next up,
- 22 Marlene Richmond.
- 23 **MS. RICHMOND:** I'm 219 --
- 24 **THE PRESIDENT:** Just before
- 25 you speak, as a newly sworn-in member, alternate

- 2 member of the Zoning Hearing Board, if you were to
- 3 ever have to deal with this issue, you would have
- 4 to recuse yourself. With that being said, you're
- 5 free to speak.
- 6 MS. RICHMOND: I'm going to
- 7 not speak. Thanks.
- 8 THE PRESIDENT: Next up, we
- 9 have David Pinski. Please give us your address.
- MR. PINSKI: David Pinski, 126
- 11 Merion Avenue.
- 12 And I want to preface my
- 13 comment by saying, I use to wonder why the top of
- 14 the Borough newsletter, it said do not believe in
- 15 roomers or something to that effect. It just
- 16 seems like all of us or at least the people on
- 17 this side of the fence are operating under a
- 18 certain amount of lack of information. So let
- 19 me -- I'm going to speak in just generalities
- 20 about the issue.
- 21 I would love to see more
- 22 public space in downtown Narberth. I would hope
- 23 that eminent domain is a last resort, but I think
- 24 it is a tool at the disposal of Borough Council.
- 25 I would hope all the parties can work out. It's

- 2 not clear to me that Borough Council is after the
- 3 property itself, but, perhaps, the land next to
- 4 it. And I would hope if that's the case, that
- 5 something could be worked that works well with
- 6 all the parties.
- 7 I would ask, though, at
- 8 minimum, the parking space in downtown Narberth
- 9 is limited. It's not a gas station where we can
- 10 at least get the curbs back so we can at least
- 11 have some parking on the street. That's my only
- 12 request, and that as a plan does come forward,
- 13 there's an actual period of comment when us
- 14 community members can actually comment on an
- 15 actual plan prior to whatever it is that you want
- 16 to be implemented. Thank you.
- 17 THE PRESIDENT: And that's the
- 18 common theme. Everyone in this room, I think,
- 19 recognizes the need and certainly everyone that
- 20 has spoken so far with more information coming
- 21 from this side of the table and the public domain,
- 22 and I certainly recognize that.
- 23 With that said, let me go to
- 24 my second grade classmate, Pat Clark. Is he
- 25 still here?

- 2 MR. CLARK: Yes.
- 3 THE PRESIDENT: Hi, Pat.
- MR. CLARK: Hi, Sam.
- 5 **THE PRESIDENT:** Give your
- 6 address for the record.
- 7 MR. CLARK: 6 Wynndale Circle.
- 8 And much of what I was going
- 9 to say was mirrored by Sean. So that was a lot
- 10 of my speech.
- 11 The only other thing I would
- 12 like to say is we could go through the room and
- 13 everyone might have different ideas as to what
- 14 you want to do with this property, but we have
- 15 property rights. And I'm just a strong believer
- 16 that the owner has a right to decide, as long as
- 17 it's legal, it's within the zoning. He's the guy
- 18 that bought it, he's paying the taxes, and I
- 19 think he has the right to decide how he wants to
- 20 use his property. I just don't think -- there is
- 21 a time when eminent domain, I believe, is the
- 22 proper use. But for a couple parking spaces and
- 23 for staging of events when I think there, you
- 24 know, if this owner was not willing to do it, I'm
- 25 sure there are other people in town who are

- 2 willing to cooperate, it's kind of always been
- 3 the way in Narberth. So I think there's always
- 4 going to be a way to find somebody who will
- 5 cooperate, who will supply the space. Narberth
- 6 has thrived forever on volunteerism. And, boy,
- 7 what a better way to go than going in and
- 8 aggressively taking away somebody's property. So
- 9 that's my first part.
- 10 The second part really is the
- 11 expense. It was reported the purchase price was
- 12 \$350,000. We got money put into the building.
- 13 We've probably got a legal suit that we're going
- 14 to have to pay for to take the building, if we
- 15 win. But then, if we win, we've taken the
- 16 property off the tax shaw. A little bit over two
- 17 thousand dollars a year is paid to the Borough
- 18 alone, at least part of what I have said three,
- 19 and then there's money paid to the county, money
- 20 paid to the school district. That's now gone.
- 21 So I think that's got to be taken into
- 22 consideration.
- 23 And the final thing is, in
- 24 regards to how you use this property, hey, it
- 25 would be beautiful to have an open space there,

- 2 and a place to sit and a place to eat a sandwich.
- 3 But by the same token, I think every business in
- 4 Narberth feeds off the other businesses in
- 5 Narberth.
- 6 We're not that big. I use to
- 7 work in Narberth. Our office is not here any
- 8 more. But you take that one business away and it
- 9 affects the other businesses. We were Clark and
- 10 Madara Real Estate. When Clark and Madara Real
- 11 Estate left, that was twenty people who didn't
- 12 eat at the deli or pizza shop or, you know,
- 13 whatever, every day. Now, another business went
- 14 in there. But if you take one away, you're
- 15 taking a lot away from everybody else, and I
- 16 think that has to be taken into account, too.
- 17 THE PRESIDENT: Thank you,
- 18 Pat. There was one person on the list that I
- 19 think is actually, as the mayor calls it, a
- 20 "Nearb," and it's the last person.
- 21 Is Council all right if that
- 22 person --
- 23 MR. MUDERICK: Sure.
- MR. WEGBREIT: Sure.
- THE PRESIDENT: Appears to be

- 2 one. Jonathan Felix. Is he here?
- 3 MR. FELIX: Sprague Road.
- 4 THE PRESIDENT: Sprague Road I
- 5 don't think is in the Borough of Narberth. We are
- 6 giving you a courtesy.
- 7 MR. FELIX: Jonathan Felix.
- 8 I've personally known Kenny. I know Kenny and
- 9 know his brother Ken. And he's a very nice
- 10 person, a serious person, I trained with him
- 11 before, and he would be an asset to the Borough.
- 12 And my understanding of
- 13 eminent domain is when a municipality uses it for
- 14 something like a school or a road or for a court
- 15 house. And I just believe that this is the wrong
- 16 use. I guess if I would've had a guestion, I
- 17 would ask if this has ever been done before in
- 18 Narberth? If eminent domain has ever been done
- 19 before?
- THE PRESIDENT: It's not a
- 21 question and answer session. I think the mayor
- 22 can --
- 23 **THE MAYOR:** I can address it.
- 24 We're going to have a town hall meeting on
- 25 Wednesday, the 21st. We're going to talk about

- 2 Narberth, it's vision, public space, open space,
- 3 piazzas, everything, with regard to those things.
- 4 MR. FELIX: I was also going
- 5 to mention what you said about the town hall
- 6 meeting because if the people have a vision of
- 7 what the town is going to be like in the future, I
- 8 don't think they want to envision of eminent
- 9 domain used for taking people's properties away.
- 10 **THE MAYOR:** We'll discuss
- 11 that.
- 12 **THE PRESIDENT:** Anyone else
- 13 that would like to address Council on the matter
- 14 regarding 100 Forrest Avenue?
- 15 Yes. State your name and
- 16 address.
- 17 MS. LONSDORF: Deborah
- 18 Lonsdorf, 128 Chestnut Avenue.
- I just was curious if this
- 20 property was for sale before why the Borough
- 21 didn't, you know, move at that point? But I
- 22 guess you're really not answering questions right
- 23 now?
- THE PRESIDENT: No, we're not.
- 25 **MS. LONSDORF:** So maybe I

- 2 can't do that. But I like the idea of the public
- 3 space. I'm concerned about property owners'
- 4 rights, and I would love to see it if we have the
- 5 public space and he could have his business or
- 6 maybe have it somewhere else. But I was just
- 7 confused about why we didn't move on this earlier.
- 8 But I realized maybe we'll talk about this on
- 9 Wednesday. That's my comment.
- 10 **THE PRESIDENT:** Anybody else
- 11 like to speak to Council?
- 12 Go ahead.
- MS. DuBOIS: Georgette DuBois,
- 14 111 Price Avenue.
- 15 Aaron, thank you for reading
- 16 my letter.
- 17 Thank you, all. I know
- 18 you've spent a lot of time and effort on all of
- 19 this, and I really appreciate that there is this
- 20 many people here this evening. I think it
- 21 matters a lot that we be here in person to be
- 22 able to at least say something if not have any
- 23 questions answered because apparently it is the
- 24 case.
- 25 And my overarching concern

- 2 with all this, so I'm saying this as a private
- 3 citizen, not as the president of Civic
- 4 Association, is the lack of information.
- 5 Obviously, it's echoed over and over here. And
- 6 I've heard the expression legal constraints over
- 7 and over. I heard it last week at the meeting.
- 8 And there are things that could have been made
- 9 public all along, and instead what we've had is
- 10 no information and a tremendous amount of
- 11 speculation on Facebook.
- 12 People speculate when they
- 13 have no information, and so, that's what's gone
- 14 on. And on Facebook, at times, there have been
- 15 things posted like the actual ad that was run
- 16 that uses the word "parking," and that was posted
- 17 by someone other than anybody from the Borough
- 18 government, so people got to see that I think in
- 19 an unorthodox way.
- 20 So my understanding is that
- 21 before anything about eminent domain would be put
- 22 out in any municipality, it would be necessary
- 23 for there to be a specific plan. And my legal
- 24 understanding is that's what would have to
- 25 happen, and none of that did. And I think the

- 2 way this has been handled, unfortunately, is what
- 3 has led to lots of misunderstanding and upset and
- 4 back and forth.
- 5 So I think that going forward
- 6 it's critically important that public information
- 7 be posted on the Borough website in a timely
- 8 fashion, such as minutes of meetings, which as I
- 9 mentioned at the last meeting, when I was
- 10 desperately trying to get information about what
- 11 was going on and planned to come to a meeting, I
- 12 made a point of looking at the website to read
- 13 the previous minutes. And as of last week, the
- 14 most recent minutes posted on the website were
- 15 from August and September. So if anybody also
- 16 made that attempt, there was nothing -- people
- 17 are nodding their heads -- there to learn
- 18 anything from.
- 19 And I have probably ten or
- 20 twelve or more years ago been in a Borough
- 21 Council meeting where I raised the issue of the
- 22 website. I heard other people raise it. And
- 23 year after year after year, it's just as it has
- 24 been. And this is a town, this is a municipality
- 25 where there are people who really care, who are

- 2 passionately interested in what's going on. We
- 3 are in the 21st industry at a time when all of
- 4 these things could be readily made public and
- 5 should be so that people like us would have
- 6 information rather than, as Jeff mentioned,
- 7 roomers flying around.
- 8 So I'm calling upon Council
- 9 Borough government, everyone involved, to address
- 10 this issue. And you read my statement about the
- 11 documents that we'd like it to be made public.
- 12 So I know I can't ask a question, but I will
- 13 expect to hear at some point soon how that public
- 14 information will be made available, and I do not
- 15 mean a piece of paper in Borough Hall where
- 16 people have to take time off from work during the
- 17 day to go in and ask to see a piece of paper.
- 18 Again, it's the 21st century and those things
- 19 should be readily available, not available with
- 20 great difficulty. And I think a lot of people
- 21 here would really appreciate having that sort of
- 22 thing available. Thank you.
- THE PRESIDENT: Thank you.
- Is there anyone else who
- 25 would like to address Council on this issue?

- 2 (No response.)
- 3 **THE PRESIDENT:** Does anyone
- 4 have a motion?
- 5 MR. DIAZ: I move to postpone
- 6 consideration of the Penny Ordinance, which would
- 7 authorize the acquisition of the property at 100
- 8 Forrest Avenue.
- 9 THE PRESIDENT: Is there a
- 10 second?
- MR. WEISBORD: I second that.
- 12 **THE PRESIDENT:** Discussion?
- MR. WEGBREIT: No. I just
- 14 want clarity when we say "postponed, what, you
- 15 know, whether it's postponed, it's not postponed
- 16 till a certain date, it's just postponed
- 17 indefinitely, I would suspect; is that correct?
- 18 MR. JONAS: It would be
- 19 postponed until you readvertise and decide to move
- 20 forward on it. So you would need another action,
- 21 another public meeting to sort of take it back
- 22 upon the table and move forward with it.
- 23 MR. WEGBREIT: The advertising
- 24 requirements be based on my concerns to make sure
- 25 that everybody feels comfortable that there's a

- 2 public notice with plenty of time for them to hear
- 3 any further discussions on it. What would the
- 4 advertising requirement be?
- 5 MR. JONAS: It requires
- 6 advertising once at least seven days before the
- 7 meeting, which would be considered.
- 8 **THE PRESIDENT:** Councilman
- 9 Weisbord, do you have any questions or comments?
- 10 MR. WEISBORD: I'm just
- 11 absorbing what that means. So basically we could
- 12 restart this with seven days' public notice?
- MR. JONAS: Public notice,
- 14 yes.
- 15 MR. WEISBORD: Thank you. I
- 16 have nothing to add.
- 17 **THE PRESIDENT:** Councilman
- 18 Diaz.
- MR. DIAZ: Yeah. So,
- 20 colleagues, I made the motion based on, you know,
- 21 Mr. Coil intimated, I thought we opened a
- 22 productive dialogue yesterday with you. I'd
- 23 anticipate sitting back down again with you,
- 24 Mr. Wegbreit, and presumably your wife to continue
- 25 that dialogue. So I thought it was prudent at

- 2 this junction to move to postpone to see how that
- 3 resolves and then from that, see what further
- 4 actions are necessary.
- 5 **THE PRESIDENT:** Vice-president
- 6 Muderick, do you have anything that you want to
- 7 say at this time?
- 8 MR. MUDERICK: Yeah. I just
- 9 would like to say that I think that it's very
- 10 clear there have been a lot of communication
- 11 issues between Council and the public on this
- 12 issue, on our plan, on our vision, why we're doing
- 13 what we're doing. And your message to us that the
- 14 vacuum of information creates a lot of speculation
- 15 and anxiety and ill-will is definitely received
- 16 and will be discussed further.
- 17 **THE PRESIDENT:** Councilman
- 18 Silio.
- 19 MR. SILIO: The issue clearly
- 20 merits, A, better public information, B, more
- 21 opportunity for public comment. If this is one
- 22 meeting, we should have a couple more and
- 23 understand everybody's position better. And, C,
- 24 what Richard said, some real dialogue with the
- 25 property owner. So I think postponing is

- 2 definitely the right thing to do at this time.
- 3 THE PRESIDENT: Councilwoman
- 4 Tevlin-Moffat, is there anything you would like to
- 5 add?
- MS. TEVLIN-MOFFAT: Thank you,
- 7 President Quinn.
- 8 Thank you all for coming. I
- 9 appreciate that you've all taken the time,
- 10 because Georgette is right, it does take some
- 11 time. But this is your government, it's your
- 12 town, and your participation is not just needed,
- 13 it is required. It's more than election day.
- 14 It's more than picking up a piece of paper. It's
- 15 participating and holding your government
- 16 accountable. We've heard your message. We
- 17 appreciate the time that you put in, but we are
- 18 working for a greater solution. Guaranteed, we
- 19 are working for a greater solution. Thank you.
- 20 **THE PRESIDENT:** Why don't we
- 21 just add to the mayor's comments earlier about
- 22 having the public meeting. It's clear that before
- 23 this action should be enacted upon, that, you
- 24 know, better communication and better input from
- 25 the public as to what they want to do and what

- 2 they value, as well as our own vision gets
- 3 communicated out to the public, and there's
- 4 meaningful notice and meaningful opportunity to
- 5 weigh in, you know, to a person tonight, everyone.
- 6 The common theme whether you express support for
- 7 the idea or not was that, you know, how can we
- 8 weigh in on something that we know nothing about.
- 9 So I think that is the reason for the motion, and
- 10 I thank everyone for coming.
- 11 **THE MAYOR:** Sam, I'd like to
- 12 thank Council and the Coils for having a dialogue.
- 13 I'm very encouraged. I think it's something to
- 14 move forward with, and I'm very encourage about
- 15 what's been going on, and I would like to see some
- 16 progress. Thank you so much.
- 17 **THE PRESIDENT:** All in favor
- 18 of the motion, please signify by saying aye?
- MR. MUDERICK: Aye.
- 20 MR. WEGBREIT: Aye.
- MR. WEISBORD: Aye.
- MR. SILIO: Aye.
- MR. DIAZ: Aye.
- 24 MS. TEVLIN-MOFFAT: Aye.
- THE PRESIDENT: Aye.

- 2 Any opposed?
- 3 (No response.)
- 4 THE PRESIDENT: Motion
- 5 carries, and the action is postponed.
- Now, we're going to go along
- 7 back to agenda Item No. 6, the reports of the
- 8 standing committees, and I'll turn the floor over
- 9 to Councilman Silio, finance.
- 10 MR. SILIO: Sure.
- 11 **THE PRESIDENT:** We'll give
- 12 everyone a few minutes.
- 13 (Recess.)
- 14 THE PRESIDENT: I'd like to
- 15 call the meeting back to order and go to
- 16 Councilman Silio, Finance Committee.
- MR. SILIO: For Council and
- 18 members of the public, we usually have a schedule
- 19 of bills and monthly report from the Finance
- 20 Committee. But because we just went through our
- 21 budget cycle and recessed our December meeting and
- 22 had a follow-up meeting to approve the budget and
- 23 review bills on December 30th, what we do is we
- 24 don't have a report for January. We have
- 25 essentially two at the next Council meeting in

- 2 February, so that part of the agenda goes by very
- 3 quickly.
- 4 As for the January meeting
- 5 schedule, we have a committee meeting tomorrow
- 6 morning here in the building from 8:30 to 9:30.
- 7 The primary agenda item for which is to set
- 8 priorities and work plan for some of the office
- 9 IT communications and other priorities for the
- 10 year, especially in light of our new hire.
- MR. WEGBREIT: No, no, no.
- 12 Don't steal my thunder.
- MR. SILIO: But I'll defer
- 14 that to there.
- But in any case, we've got a
- 16 lot of work to do in the office, especially given
- 17 that we are, as will be announced shortly, hiring
- 18 a new assistant Borough manager. We want to make
- 19 sure that it's a smooth onboard process. So
- 20 that's it. So our January Finance Committee
- 21 meeting is tomorrow, in the morning.
- THE PRESIDENT: Aaron, with
- 23 your permission, I was going to -- is there
- 24 anything else for finance, anybody have any
- 25 questions?

- 2 (No response.)
- 3 THE PRESIDENT: Tom, you good?
- 4 THE MAYOR: I'm good.
- 5 THE PRESIDENT: All right.
- 6 Aaron, I was going move up succession planning and
- 7 give the floor to Councilman Wegbreit.
- 8 MR. MUDERICK: Go ahead. Roll
- 9 it.
- MR. WEGBREIT: For those of
- 11 you who haven't been tracking it, I think everyone
- 12 in this room has a sense that we've spent well
- 13 over a year with the succession plan, first, to
- 14 see what we wanted to do and then moving in to
- 15 recruiting a professional recruiter where we had
- 16 over sixty applications screened down to ten
- 17 candidates, screened downed down to five
- 18 interviews, screened down to two finalists, and
- 19 the quality and caliber of people that wanted to
- 20 work in Narberth in this assistant manager role
- 21 was very, very impressive.
- The Council unanimously came
- 23 to the conclusion that the next Borough manager
- 24 would be Sean Metrick, who happens to be standing
- 25 with us right now, and he will be starting next

- 2 week.
- 3 Sean, if you could just stand
- 4 up.
- 5 MR. METRICK: (Complies.)
- MR. WEGBREIT: Sean, before
- 7 you get to say hello to everybody, I just want to
- 8 tell you that all Borough meetings are just like
- 9 tonight.
- 10 MR. METRICK: Great. It's
- 11 ironic because I've been dating Narberth Borough
- 12 for three years now, and it was almost three years
- 13 to the date where I came to my first planning
- 14 commission meeting after coming back from a super
- 15 cold ski trip in the Poconos with a bunch of
- 16 families, and everyone in the room clapped for me
- 17 then, and I said I haven't done anything and
- 18 haven't done anything yet. So if you've seen me
- 19 around town, those of you who don't know me, I've
- 20 been managing the Form-base Code Zone Project. If
- 21 you've seen me at Planning Commission meetings or
- 22 wandering around your neighborhood with a camera
- 23 taking photos of your home, that was me.
- I'm really excited to get
- 25 started here at the Borough, and I can't wait for

- 2 next week to get here, although I'm really
- 3 enjoying my week off between the two jobs. So
- 4 thank you all for inviting me and welcoming me
- 5 here.
- THE PRESIDENT: Thank you,
- 7 Sean. Marc Jonas would like to say a couple
- 8 words.
- 9 MR. JONAS: I just want to say
- 10 something. December 31 I stepped down as chair of
- 11 the board of the Montgomery County Planning
- 12 Commission. And from a board perspective, I had
- 13 the opportunity to know and see Sean's work. The
- 14 Borough is one lucky municipality to have Sean
- 15 onboard.
- 16 THE PRESIDENT: We look
- 17 forward to you starting.
- 18 MR. CORNWELL: I would like to
- 19 comment that Sean has done an excellent job of
- 20 shepherding the development of this new code for
- 21 the last several years. He's produced -- those of
- 22 you who have received a copy or shortly will, he's
- 23 produced a terrific document and kept us moving in
- 24 a positive direction for many, many meetings in
- 25 this room. So I think you made the right choice.

- 2 THE PRESIDENT: Council
- 3 Wegbreit, did you want to set a meeting for
- 4 committee?
- 5 MR. WEGBREIT: No. We decided
- 6 to --
- 7 THE PRESIDENT: You said
- 8 February.
- 9 MR. WEGBREIT: Yeah. Wait
- 10 till February, let Sean get in, and then start to
- 11 see.
- 12 **THE PRESIDENT:** All right.
- 13 Public safety, Vice-president Muderick.
- 14 MR. MUDERICK: As was
- 15 previously said, I believe we have an agreement in
- 16 principle with the Lower Merion FOP regarding the
- 17 Narberth Police contract and we'll let the
- 18 attorneys dot the I's and cross the T's.
- 19 Hopefully, we'll have something for Council at our
- 20 February Council meeting for action.
- We've also been working with
- 22 the mayor regarding the new traffic left-turn
- 23 restrictions on Iona and on Hampton Avenues, and
- 24 we will see how those temporary restrictions
- 25 change the traffic flow and improve safety, make

- 2 sure that it doesn't decrease the safety
- 3 substantially in other areas and make
- 4 recommendations to Council at some future date.
- 5 Thank you.
- 6 **THE MAYOR:** Initial reports
- 7 are encouraging. So we'll still need to study it
- 8 some more, but it's encouraging.
- 9 MR. MUDERICK: I will submit
- 10 the report of the police and the fire company for
- 11 public inspection.
- Mr. Martin, do we have a fire
- 13 marshal report this month?
- MR. MARTIN: We do not.
- MR. MUDERICK: Thank you.
- 16 **THE PRESIDENT:** I'll ask that
- 17 police and fire report be accepted and submitted
- 18 and be made available to public and Council for
- 19 review.
- 20 Anybody have any questions
- 21 for Vice President Muderick?
- 22 (No response.)
- THE PRESIDENT: Next up,
- 24 public works. Councilman Wegbreit.
- MR. WEGBREIT: First, I'll

- 2 submit the monthly report. It was actually
- 3 submitted at the December 30th meeting. At that
- 4 point there was no snow removal, so we did our job
- 5 successfully for 2014. We are going to have
- 6 expenses that paid by liquid fuels starting this
- 7 month.
- 8 The second thing is Christmas
- 9 trees. There was some chatter on their Facebook
- 10 about Christmas trees not being picked up.
- 11 Normally, it occurs the week that's on the
- 12 calendar. This is our trash hauler's first year
- 13 of doing this. It's also a change in where
- 14 they're bringing these trees to. So tree pick-up
- 15 will continue throughout this week. Ideally it
- 16 will be done by Thursday, but if I'm correct, it
- 17 should be done by the end of week and apologies
- 18 to anybody whose Christmas tree is out there
- 19 getting cold. It's in its natural habitat one
- 20 extra week.
- 21 The Public Works Committee is
- 22 overseeing the bridge project, which will be
- 23 happening or should be happening, nothing is will
- 24 until they start. One of the big aspects of the
- 25 bridge project is the public art that will be

- 2 going on the bridge. This is a bridge that we
- 3 expect to be in place for 50 to 200 years. We've
- 4 spent a lot of money, effort, and thought on the
- 5 design of the bridge. And the last, one of the
- 6 key touches is two panel areas that we have in
- 7 place for public art. Over the past few months a
- 8 group of community members who have expertise in
- 9 this area have been meeting and advising us,
- 10 they're not a committee, but they're just one
- 11 more advisory aspect that this town offers.
- The one thing that came out
- 13 of that is that we do want to have a public art
- 14 consultant, somebody who does this
- 15 professionally, oversee the process, because
- 16 there will be a call for artists and there will
- 17 be a longer, more delicate issue. There could be
- 18 some reasonable money spent on the public art.
- 19 That said, they went through
- 20 and gave us some suggestions. All the arrows
- 21 pointed back to a Narberth-based person who has
- 22 got international claim in this space. And so
- 23 this evening, I don't know if we need to do this
- 24 by resolution or just mention it, is we would
- 25 like the Borough to engage the services of Todd

- 2 Brasi for public art on the Narberth bridge
- 3 project at an hourly rate that is not to exceed a
- 4 total expense of \$5,000 for the project. The
- 5 hourly rate is much less than that, but the total
- 6 hours more spent -- the end cap will not be more
- 7 than \$5,000.
- 8 Dennis, on the other hand,
- 9 makes \$5,000 an hour, so we couldn't hire him.
- 10 Do we need to do anything
- 11 process-wise or just part of the administrative
- 12 costs?
- MR. MARTIN: We will do that.
- 14 A motion could be placed on the floor.
- MR. JONAS: Yes, you need a
- 16 motion.
- MR. WEGBREIT: Should we do
- 18 that now?
- 19 **THE PRESIDENT:** Let's wait
- 20 till we get to resolutions and motions.
- 21 MR. WEGBREIT: So we'll add
- 22 that. Thank you.
- The Public Works Committee
- 24 was scheduled for Wednesday, January 21st. We
- 25 are going to change that. I don't have a new

- 2 date as of today. I'll try to get that together
- 3 with committee members because the mayor is going
- 4 to steal the show with his conversation on the
- 5 21st, which is the same night as our public works
- 6 meeting.
- 7 That's okay, Tom. It's for
- 8 the greater good.
- 9 And that's all I have. Is
- 10 there anything else from the committee or anyone
- 11 else?
- 12 (No response.)
- THE PRESIDENT: Tom, do you
- 14 have any questions?
- THE MAYOR: No, I'm fine.
- THE PRESIDENT: Property.
- MR. DIAZ: Thank you, Mr.
- 18 President.
- The members of the Property
- 20 Committee would like to report the following
- 21 activities for the month of December 2014: The
- 22 members of Borough Council, on a recommendation
- 23 from the committee, awarded the contract for the
- 24 201 Sabine elevator project to FW Houder
- 25 Incorporated. The members of the highway crew

- 2 completed the winterization of the park areas.
- 3 The field and property user's meeting has been
- 4 scheduled for Monday, January 26th, 2015, at 7:30
- 5 p.m.
- As a committee, we will be
- 7 following the mayor's town hall on the 21st and
- 8 convening at 8:30 p.m. here. Agenda to be
- 9 determined. But in terms of our yearly agenda
- 10 for the committee, we're going to be looking
- 11 heavily at open spaces this year and following
- 12 the 201 Sabine elevator project clearly to its
- 13 completion. That's all I have for this month.
- 14 **THE PRESIDENT:** Do you have a
- 15 report to pass up?
- MR. DIAZ: I do.
- 17 **THE PRESIDENT:** I would ask
- 18 that the report of Public Works Committee be
- 19 accepted, submitted, and made available to public
- 20 and Council, as well as the report on Property
- 21 Committee.
- Next up, building and zoning.
- 23 Councilman Weisbord.
- MR. WEISBORD: Thank you, Mr.
- 25 President.

- The Building and Zoning
- 3 Committee has a report. It's actually our final
- 4 report for 2014. I don't usually read these
- 5 numbers, but for the government geeks and
- 6 observers who are out here, it may be interesting
- 7 to you that people filed permits for almost a
- 8 million dollars' worth of construction within the
- 9 Borough during 2014. The permit -- that
- 10 generates permit revenues of almost \$140,000,
- 11 over 149 jobs that were completed, and 384
- 12 inspections. Raise your hand if that was
- 13 interesting.
- I'll give that to you to make
- 15 available to Council and the public.
- 16 THE AUDIENCE: Did you say a
- 17 million dollars of permits or a million dollars
- 18 of --
- MR. WEISBORD: A million
- 20 dollars of construction. Estimated cost of
- 21 construction. The permit revenues were 136,000.
- The Building and Zoning
- 23 Committee will have three -- we have
- 24 recommendation that Council approve three
- 25 subdivisions, which are property owners growing

- 2 new lines on three separate lots within the
- 3 Borough. These are all being done by rights,
- 4 according to the SLDO Subdivision and Land Use
- 5 Ordinance, and the Planning Commission has
- 6 already reviewed these and made their
- 7 recommendation to the Committee.
- 8 We will also have a fourth
- 9 motion later in the meeting to schedule hearings
- 10 on two Ordinances related to a farm market use
- 11 that will be allowed in a private parking lot in
- 12 the Station Overlay area. This gives any entity
- 13 an opportunity to file permits to use a private
- 14 parking lot, for it to run a farmer's market.
- 15 And it's a fairly straightforward proposition
- 16 that the Building and Zoning Committee has
- 17 reviewed. It's now in the hands of the Planning
- 18 Commission.
- 19 The Planning Commission, at
- 20 the end of 2014 or actually just, yeah, at the
- 21 end of 2014, finally, after many years of work
- 22 completed, eight years of work. It started
- 23 actually with the review of the existing Code --
- 24 Heidi Boise is in the room, Jim Cornwell is in
- 25 the room, I was there, Bill Martin -- and we read

- 2 the Code word for word, and we looked at what
- 3 would improve the Code, and that began a
- 4 conversation that is now concluded by the
- 5 Planning Commission last month in the form of a
- 6 document that's called a Form-based Code, which
- 7 Sean Metrick facilitated the production of
- 8 through the Montgomery County Planning
- 9 Commission. It's now in the hands of Council,
- 10 and I'll spare you some of the details, but
- 11 basically will create a plan to have a public
- 12 roll out in partnership with the Business
- 13 Association, Civic Association, and the
- 14 committee, I think also the mayor as well. So
- 15 we'll invite people to come for presentation by
- 16 Planning Commission. Jim Cornwell is the chair.
- 17 And they'll tell us about all the work they've
- 18 been doing for the past three years, and it's an
- 19 opportunity for the public to ask questions about
- 20 that proposed ordinance.
- 21 So we have meeting date of
- 22 the 26th of this month, at 7:30. We may need to
- 23 reschedule that. In any case, that's our
- 24 scheduled plan for now and we will be discussing
- 25 this roll out of the Form-based Code at that

- 2 time. Does any committee members have anything
- 3 to add?
- 4 MR. WEGBREIT: On farm market,
- 5 I saw some chatter that, you know, people -- we
- 6 have the new lapse farm market. I don't know what
- 7 it's officially called. That, again, this is
- 8 not -- the Farm Market Ordinance is not really
- 9 aligned with that lapse farm market concept. It's
- 10 really about local producers. People are more
- 11 familiar with farm market in Bryn Mawr, Clark
- 12 Park, in Philadelphia, where you've got farmers
- 13 that are actually producing these items coming in,
- 14 multiple farmers. And I think it's, you know
- 15 assuming everything moves forward with it, it's
- 16 one of those things we're going to wake up and
- 17 say, wow, this is so nice to have in this town.
- 18 **THE PRESIDENT:** And that will
- 19 be good at the public meeting next month.
- MR. WEGBREIT: Yeah. I'm
- 21 explaining it to people, because, again, we just
- 22 heard from quite a few residents that we've got a
- 23 communication issue up here. So if I could
- 24 elaborate for a minute about something that
- 25 everybody likes or might like or want to

- 2 understand better, it doesn't harm us.
- 3 THE PRESIDENT: That's fine.
- 4 I'm just reminding you there was a public meeting.
- 5 We don't want people to not attend the public
- 6 meeting for that purpose.
- 7 MR. WEGBREIT: They might. It
- 8 will give us an opportunity to say it to them
- 9 again. So, anyhow. So I did want to let people
- 10 know what type of market we're thinking of in that
- 11 ordinance, and of course, since it's not done, I
- 12 don't know how people think things are done, but
- 13 I'll thank Bob anyhow for moving it to this stage
- 14 and several of the others involved in this,
- 15 because it's going to make our home values and our
- 16 lifestyle just one more notch better, so thank
- 17 you.
- 18 MR. WEISBORD: Thank you, Mr.
- 19 President. Nothing more.
- THE PRESIDENT: Mr. Mayor, any
- 21 comments?
- THE MAYOR: Nothing.
- THE PRESIDENT: Anyone else?
- 24 (No response.)
- 25 **THE PRESIDENT:** Economic

- 2 development.
- 3 MS. TEVLIN-MOFFAT: Thank you,
- 4 President Quinn.
- In my short time here at the
- 6 table, stepping into economic development, the
- 7 course was set. So I should say that those
- 8 before me have done an outstanding job in my
- 9 evaluation. And in the time that I've been here,
- 10 in the fall and winter programs that Mr. Ridgeway
- 11 and others in this community have volunteered and
- 12 put on, on behalf of not just Narbs, but Nearbs
- 13 and beyond are very successful. As you saw
- 14 tonight, Mr. Ridgeway was able to present a very
- 15 large check and cover his own expenses for the
- 16 Business Association for the good work they do in
- 17 the community.
- 18 Mr. Martin told me at an
- 19 earlier meeting, told all of us at an earlier
- 20 meeting, what the revenue was from our small town
- 21 and our great businesses. And I think that in
- 22 our meeting tomorrow night, we will discuss or
- 23 Mr. Ridgeway will present for us the 2015
- 24 calendar. He will explain the lead time and what
- 25 he needs to present information and PR, shall we

- 2 say, to the community and beyond for those events
- 3 that are coming up. Hopefully, in 2015, our
- 4 community is going to delve into the parameters
- 5 of our own economic development goals and discuss
- 6 whether we are grants or whether we are support
- 7 source. So there are conversations coming ahead
- 8 to what economic development really means and
- 9 participating in this. So we look forward to
- 10 sharing those things with you.
- 11 **THE PRESIDENT:** Anybody have
- 12 any questions or comments for economic
- 13 development?
- 14 MR. WEGBREIT: Can we just,
- 15 for the purposes of the public, to have the agenda
- 16 that we address who's on the committee with Gigi?
- 17 **THE PRESIDENT:** I believe I
- 18 mentioned that.
- 19 Mr. Martin, I think that
- 20 might be a good first task for our new assistant
- 21 manager?
- MS. TEVLIN-MOFFAT: On the
- 23 economic development team is myself, Gigi Moffat,
- 24 Richard Diaz and Charlie Silio are the new
- 25 economic developers since I came onboard.

- THE PRESIDENT: Parking ad
- 3 hoc.
- 4 MR. SILIO: We were going to
- 5 have that meeting right after the building and
- 6 zoning meeting, but the building and zoning
- 7 meeting is moving. So whenever the building and
- 8 zoning meeting is, since we have two members that
- 9 are on both, we'll just do it right after that and
- 10 I'll make myself available. It won't on the 26th.
- 11 **THE PRESIDENT:** Anybody have
- 12 any questions or comments for Council?
- 13 (No response.)
- 14 **THE PRESIDENT:** Back again to
- 15 citizens present to address Council. Would anyone
- 16 like to address Council on any other issue other
- 17 than 100 Forrest Avenue?
- 18 (No response.)
- 19 **THE PRESIDENT:** Anyone want to
- 20 tell us what a great job we did hiring Mr.
- 21 Metrick?
- Next up resolutions, Agenda
- 23 Item 8. I'll turn it over to Councilman
- 24 Weisbord.
- 25 MR. WEISBORD: Let's do the

- 2 motion for hearing first. And I may need some
- 3 assistance with the language for that motion, Mr.
- 4 Jonas.
- 5 I want to move that we
- 6 schedule hearings for Ordinance No. 978 and 979?
- 7 THE PRESIDENT: No, not 978.
- 8 MR. WEISBORD: 979 and
- 9 Ordinance 980, that are scheduled for the first
- 10 Borough Council meeting in March.
- 11 MR. MUDERICK: I'll second.
- 12 MR. JONAS: I would announce
- 13 the date.
- 14 MR. WEISBORD: And to please
- 15 transmit -- to authorize the Borough manager to
- 16 transmit the Ordinances zoning amendment to the
- 17 Montgomery County Planning Commission for review
- 18 and to the Narberth Planning Commission for review
- 19 within 31 days.
- 20 MR. MUDERICK: So that would
- 21 be March 9th at 7:00 p.m.?
- MR. WEISBORD: We should
- 23 schedule a hearing for 7:30.
- Mr. Martin, do you have a
- 25 recommendation about how we should schedule that

- 2 meeting? Should we do it concurrent with the
- 3 Council meeting at 8:00?
- 4 MR. MARTIN: I would schedule
- 5 it for 7:30.
- 6 MR. WEISBORD: So moved.
- 7 THE PRESIDENT: Let's back up
- 8 and put March 9th in it.
- 9 MR. WEISBORD: March 9th, at
- 10 7:30 is the time. So that's the motion.
- 11 **THE PRESIDENT:** Let's have you
- 12 restate it so the court reporter can get it all
- 13 down in one accurate swoop?
- 14 MR. WEISBORD: I move to
- 15 schedule a public meeting for Ordinance 979 and
- 16 Ordinance 980, to be scheduled for the March 9th
- 17 meeting of Council at 7:30 p.m.
- 18 MR. MUDERICK: I second.
- 19 MR. WEISBORD: And I have a
- 20 second motion then.
- 21 **THE PRESIDENT:** We have a
- 22 motion and a second. Any discussion?
- 23 (No response.)
- 24 **THE PRESIDENT:** All in favor
- 25 of passing motion for building and zoning to

- 2 schedule the hearing for March 9th, please say
- 3 aye.
- 4 MR. MUDERICK: Aye.
- 5 MR. WEGBREIT: Aye.
- 6 MR. WEISBORD: Aye.
- 7 MR. SILIO: Aye.
- 8 MR. DIAZ: Aye.
- 9 MS. TEVLIN-MOFFAT: Aye.
- 10 THE PRESIDENT: Aye.
- 11 Any opposed?
- 12 (No response.)
- 13 **THE PRESIDENT:** Motion
- 14 carries.
- MR. JONAS: Can I get one
- 16 point of information from the Borough manager,
- 17 which is -79 and which is -80 now, because they
- 18 were originally numbered as -78 and -79? So which
- 19 is -79 and which is -80?
- MR. MARTIN: -79 is the
- 21 existing -79.
- MR. JONAS: So that's the
- 23 rules and regulations?
- MR. MARTIN: Right.
- MR. JONAS: So -80 is the

- 2 Zoning Ordinance.
- 3 MR. MARTIN: Zoning Ordinance,
- 4 right.
- 5 MR. JONAS: Thank you very
- 6 much.
- 7 MR. WEISBORD: Next motion
- 8 would be to authorize Borough manager to transmit
- 9 the Zoning Amendment, Ordinance No. 980 to the
- 10 Montgomery County Planning Commission and Narberth
- 11 Planning Commission for their review.
- 12 MR. MUDERICK: Second.
- THE PRESIDENT: Any
- 14 discussion?
- 15 (No response.)
- 16 **THE PRESIDENT:** All in favor
- 17 adopting the motion, please say aye.
- 18 MR. MUDERICK: Aye.
- MR. WEGBREIT: Aye.
- 20 MR. WEISBORD: Aye.
- MR. SILIO: Aye.
- MR. DIAZ: Aye.
- 23 MS. TEVLIN-MOFFAT: Aye.
- THE PRESIDENT: Aye.
- 25 Any opposed?

- 2 (No response.)
- 3 THE PRESIDENT: Motion carries
- 4 unanimous.
- 5 MR. WEISBORD: Three motions.
- 6 That the Building and Zoning Committee recommend
- 7 approval of the following.
- 8 Can I do them all as one
- 9 motion for all three or should we do them
- 10 separately, Mr. Jonas?
- MR. JONAS: Separately,
- 12 because one requires waivers.
- MR. WEISBORD: Okay. Here's
- 14 the first. This is the matter of the tennis
- 15 courts.
- 16 Members of the Building and
- 17 Zoning Committee recommend the approval of the
- 18 following motion concerning the subdivision
- 19 2014-4 for the property located at 630 Montgomery
- 20 Avenue, Narberth, PA, the tennis courts.
- MR. DIAZ: I'll second.
- THE PRESIDENT: Any
- 23 discussion?
- 24 (No response.)
- 25 MR. WEGBREIT: For those of

- 2 you out there, they're planning on putting --
- 3 where the outdoor tennis courts are on Haverford
- 4 Avenue, the developers -- the clay courts at
- 5 Julian Krinsky -- they're planning on putting four
- 6 houses up there at this point. Two twins, I
- 7 believe. There's detail available. But I wanted
- 8 to -- you're hearing an address and a motion.
- 9 There's four houses. It's a development, you
- 10 know. Apparently, they worked with the Planning
- 11 Commission, and that's the background.
- MR. SILIO: Presented at the
- 13 December Council meeting?
- 14 MR. WEGBREIT: Yeah.
- THE PRESIDENT: In accordance
- 16 with all applicable local State and county rules,
- 17 I presume. Any further discussion?
- 18 (No response.)
- 19 **THE PRESIDENT:** All in favor
- 20 of passing the motion from Building and Zoning,
- 21 please say aye.
- MR. MUDERICK: Aye.
- MR. WEGBREIT: Aye.
- MR. WEISBORD: Aye.
- MR. SILIO: Aye.

1	NARBERTH BOROUGH - COUNCIL MEETING
2	MR. DIAZ: Aye.
3	$ exttt{MS}$ . $ exttt{TEVLIN-MOFFAT}$ : Aye.
4	THE PRESIDENT: Aye.
5	Any opposed?
6	(No response.)
7	THE PRESIDENT: Motion carries
8	unanimous.
9	MR. WEISBORD: For the public,
10	the second motion concerns 232 North Narberth
11	Avenue. It's the Nistico property, at the corner
12	of Woodbine and North Narberth Avenue. They have
13	an extra wide, sort of a double-wide lot for the
14	stone house on the corner, and they're asking to
15	put a property line in to create two lots.
16	Council members, the members
17	of the Building and Zoning Committee recommend
18	the approval of the following motion concerning
19	subdivision 2014-3 for be property located at 232
20	North Narberth Avenue, in Narberth, PA, Nistico.
21	THE PRESIDENT: Second.
22	MR. MUDERICK: I'll second.
23	THE PRESIDENT: Any
2 4	discussion?
25	(No response.)

- 2 THE PRESIDENT: All in favor 3 of adopting the motion, please say aye. 4 MR. MUDERICK: Aye. 5 MR. WEGBREIT: Aye. 6 MR. WEISBORD: Aye. 7 MR. SILIO: Aye. MR. DIAZ: Aye. 8 9 MS. TEVLIN-MOFFAT: Aye. 10 THE PRESIDENT: Aye. 11 Any opposed? 12 (No response.) 13 THE PRESIDENT: Motion carries 14 unanimous. 15 Councilman Weisbord. 16 MR. WEISBORD: The third motion concerns 316 North Essex Avenue. It's a 17
- 18 property at the corner of -- actually, it's
- 19 changing the property line between two properties
- 20 that occupy the two lots between Essex Avenue and
- 21 Price Avenue on the south side of Essex Avenue and
- 22 Dudley Avenue on the south side of Price. It's
- 23 Eli Holtman's property. And they are by rights
- 24 moving the property line either north or south. I
- 25 don't know.

# 1 NARBERTH BOROUGH - COUNCIL MEETING 2 MS. BOISE: West. 3 MR. WEISBORD: Thank you. 4 Members of the Building and 5 Zoning Committee recommend the approval of the following motion considering the subdivision 7 2014-5 for the property located at 316 North Essex Avenue, Narberth, PA, Holtman. 8 9 MR. DIAZ: Second. 10 THE PRESIDENT: Any 11 discussion? 12 (No response.) 13 THE PRESIDENT: All in favor 14 of passing this motion, please say aye. 15 MR. MUDERICK: Aye. 16 MR. WEGBREIT: Aye. 17 MR. WEISBORD: Aye. MR. SILIO: Aye. 18 19 MR. DIAZ: Aye. 20 MS. TEVLIN-MOFFAT: Aye. 21 THE PRESIDENT: Aye. 22 Any opposed?

(No response.)

THE PRESIDENT: Motion carries

23

24

25

unanimous.

- 2 Councilman Weisbord, would
- 3 you add that motion regarding 232?
- 4 MR. WEISBORD: These are
- 5 motions to grant waivers for 232 Narberth Avenue.
- I move to grant waivers for
- 7 the Sections 113-8(D)(4) and (5) and
- 8 113-9(A)(2)(B)(1) to (3) requiring profiles of
- 9 existing sanitary sewers, roadways, and drains to
- 10 be shown on the preliminary and final subdivision
- 11 plans.
- THE PRESIDENT: Second?
- MR. MUDERICK: Second.
- 14 THE PRESIDENT: Any
- 15 discussion?
- 16 MR. WEGBREIT: We are granting
- 17 waivers. Since we have people here, I think it's
- 18 always good to kind of give a description of what
- 19 the process the applicant wanted through and what
- 20 the Borough did as far as reviewing it by our
- 21 professionals, by our engineering staff. I don't
- 22 know what you have from Mr. Martin and Mr. Jonas.
- 23 Just describe, you know, what they came to us, how
- 24 much back and forth, how much time, what was
- 25 involved.

- 2 MR. MARTIN: The subdivision
- 3 concerning the 232 North Narberth Avenue actually
- 4 began with the requirement for a zoning hearing.
- 5 The zoning hearing will establish the fact that
- 6 once the property was subdivided, the existing
- 7 property at the corner of Woodbine and North
- 8 Narberth Avenues had no off-street parking.
- 9 Technically, you can't subdivide yourself into a
- 10 variance. The applicants went to a zoning hearing
- 11 middle of last year and that allowed them the
- 12 opportunity to place the off-street parking
- 13 required under the Code in the side and rear yard
- 14 setback area as provided as a special exception
- 15 under the Zoning Code.
- 16 The next process was -- that
- 17 was granted by the members of the Zoning Hearing
- 18 Board. Then the plans were submitted for the
- 19 subdivision of the property, which is located
- 20 immediately south of the house at 232 Narberth
- 21 Avenue. Their plans were submitted and prepared
- 22 by Momenee and submitted to our engineering
- 23 department as well as a copy to the Montgomery
- 24 County Planning Commission.
- The review actually took a

- 2 number of months, starting approximately
- 3 August 22. There were three or four revisions
- 4 consisting of seven sheets and a landscaping plan
- 5 that was finally dated December 22, 2014.
- 6 The approval of that was then
- 7 moved. At the same time, each one of the plans
- 8 that were being reviewed were handled by the
- 9 solicitor as to form and substance. And as of
- 10 about 24 hours ago, we received not only the
- 11 motion for the preliminary subdivision plan
- 12 removal for 232 North Narberth, but also for the
- 13 need for some of the waivers that Mr. Weisbord is
- 14 going to continue to take numerically.
- 15 MR. WEISBORD: So this next
- 16 motion is rather lengthy. It includes eleven
- 17 points.
- 18 MR. DIAZ: Sorry. Do we still
- 19 have a pending motion?
- MR. WEGBREIT: Yes. We're in
- 21 discussion on the first motion.
- 22 MR. WEISBORD: We made a
- 23 motion and a second.
- 24 MR. WEGBREIT: Thank you for
- 25 the response and, you know, I think that type of

- 2 detail that we hear on a regular basis. It's nice
- 3 when somebody is here that you can see how much
- 4 the Borough office, the Borough engineer, the
- 5 solicitor get involved in. So thank you for
- 6 indulging us.
- 7 MR. MARTIN: My pleasure.
- 8 THE PRESIDENT: Anybody else
- 9 want to say anything?
- 10 (No response.)
- 11 **THE PRESIDENT:** All in favor
- 12 of passing the motion, please say aye.
- MR. MUDERICK: Aye.
- 14 MR. WEGBREIT: Aye.
- MR. WEISBORD: Aye.
- MR. SILIO: Aye.
- MR. DIAZ: Aye.
- 18 MS. TEVLIN-MOFFAT: Aye.
- THE PRESIDENT: Aye.
- 20 Any opposed?
- 21 (No response.)
- THE PRESIDENT: Motion carries
- 23 unanimous.
- MR. WEISBORD: This is the
- 25 second motion for preliminary finding subdivision

- 2 planning approval for 232 North Narberth Avenue.
- 3 THE PRESIDENT: We did that.
- 4 MR. WEISBORD: There's a
- 5 second. There's only two motions to be done --
- 6 one was the waiver and one was for the plan
- 7 approval. You already did the plan approval. We
- 8 caught up and did the waiver. I think we're good.
- 9 THE PRESIDENT: Is there any
- 10 more resolutions or motions that I'm unaware of
- 11 that we want to do tonight?
- 12 MR. WEGBREIT: Resolutions for
- 13 the --
- 14 **THE PRESIDENT:** The Todd Brasi
- 15 Motion?
- MR. WEGBREIT: Yes.
- 17 **THE PRESIDENT:** You have the
- 18 floor.
- MR. WEGBREIT: Motion or
- 20 resolution?
- MR. JONAS: Motion.
- 22 MR. WEGBREIT: So I want to
- 23 make a motion for --
- MR. JONAS: Prerogative of the
- 25 chair.

- THE PRESIDENT: That's all
- 3 right. Do a motion.
- 4 MR. WEGBREIT: I want to make
- 5 a motion for the Borough to appoint the services
- 6 of Todd Brasi for public art on the Narberth
- 7 Avenue bridge project with fees not to exceed
- 8 \$5,000.
- 9 MR. WEISBORD: I'll second
- 10 that.
- 11 THE PRESIDENT: Any
- 12 discussion?
- MR. SILIO: Just to clarify
- 14 his role, Bob.
- 15 MR. WEGBREIT: His role. So
- 16 once we get into the whole public art, there's
- 17 going to be -- the first thing is the organization
- 18 of it. The second is the call for artists. We're
- 19 deciding -- I mean, if you just put up the sign on
- 20 some, you could get a thousand artists that have
- 21 no filtering. Because of his experience, how
- 22 he'll phrase it, how he'll work with some of local
- 23 experts, it will narrow down within context of
- 24 experience and such. And then once we narrow that
- 25 down with the aide of some of the advisors, Public

- 2 Works Committee, and Borough Council, we'll
- 3 probably narrow down to a list of five to ten
- 4 artists. At that point it will be narrowed down
- 5 to two to three artists, where there will be a fee
- 6 paid for them to put very specific projects in,
- 7 and then the Council, again, will make the final
- 8 choice hopefully with the guidance of our group of
- 9 advisers, including Heidi Boise and others.
- But it is not a simple
- 11 process. There's a lot of legal and technical
- 12 aspects that will be involved to make sure that
- 13 the materials are good, any rights to the art are
- 14 covered, all those type of details that will come
- 15 along, and that experience and professional will
- 16 give us a much better process, as well as
- 17 probably a better opportunity to see high-quality
- 18 art.
- 19 MR. SILIO: In other words, we
- 20 are moving that the Borough hire Todd Brasi to
- 21 manage the process of selection of the artist?
- MR. WEGBREIT: Exactly.
- 23 **THE PRESIDENT:** Anybody else
- 24 have any comments or questions?
- 25 (No response.)

- THE PRESIDENT: You mentioned
- 3 an hourly rate.
- 4 MR. WEGBREIT: The hourly rate
- 5 in this proposal was \$125 an hour and not to
- 6 exceed a total project cost of \$5,000.
- 7 I can't imagine the hourly
- 8 rate coming under that. That's why I didn't
- 9 spend time on that.
- 10 **THE PRESIDENT:** Will this
- 11 committee also develop, like, a budget for the art
- 12 portion?
- MR. WEGBREIT: Yes.
- 14 **THE PRESIDENT:** I know some
- 15 years ago we, I think, allocated 50,000 for
- 16 Venturi Scott Brown; right? Will this, the
- 17 results of this committee and Mr. Brassie
- 18 advisement, will that be a new budget or an
- 19 additional budget?
- MR. WEGBREIT: It most likely
- 21 will. The cost of the art and the -- again, there
- 22 are some funding opportunities out there. Again,
- 23 you have to have a specific plan. This is to
- 24 build the plan, and, you know, the type of art
- 25 could range from a \$5,000 cost to a \$50,000 cost.

- 2 Of course, maintaining that cost, you know, is
- 3 going to be key. But this is the first step is
- 4 having someone oversee the process and then come
- 5 back to Council in the next few months for the
- 6 better picture of what the cost will be and make
- 7 sure we want to continue that and we are limited
- 8 on what we need to spend.
- 9 THE PRESIDENT: Will finance
- 10 have to get involved or do any more at public
- 11 hearings as far as considering the budget for the
- 12 art or will that be done during this process?
- MR. MARTIN: That will be done
- 14 during this project.
- THE PRESIDENT: Very good.
- 16 Anybody else have any
- 17 questions?
- 18 (No response.)
- 19 **THE PRESIDENT:** All those in
- 20 favor of adopting the motion from Public Works and
- 21 the bridge, please say aye.
- MR. MUDERICK: Aye.
- MR. WEGBREIT: Aye.
- 24 MR. WEISBORD: Aye.
- MR. SILIO: Aye.

- 2 MR. DIAZ: Aye.
- 3 MS. TEVLIN-MOFFAT: Aye.
- 4 THE PRESIDENT: Aye.
- 5 Any opposed?
- 6 (No response.)
- 7 THE PRESIDENT: Motion carries
- 8 unanimous.
- 9 Number 10 we covered. We'll
- 10 go to unfinished business.
- Anyone have any unfinished
- 12 business at the table?
- 13 (No response.)
- 14 **THE PRESIDENT:** Anyone have
- 15 any new business, Agenda Item 12?
- MR. WEGBREIT: The only thing
- 17 I would say before adjournment, I would like to
- 18 see Council move to executive session after this
- 19 meeting to discuss a property matter.
- 20 **THE PRESIDENT:** Yeah. We're
- 21 going to address 100 Forrest Avenue again in
- 22 executive session. However, in order to make sure
- 23 there can be no more official action tonight, we
- 24 need to adjourn unless Council would like to take
- 25 any additional official action tonight, and that

- 2 way everyone in the room will know that we're not
- 3 going to do anything without anyone in the room
- 4 officially.
- 5 Motion to adjourn will be
- 6 entertained?
- 7 THE MAYOR: I have business.
- 8 If it's any consolation, given the horrible
- 9 weather and the cold, Narberth baseball is open up
- 10 for registration. You can go on line and sign up.
- 11 Movie night is Friday night. We're showing
- 12 Frozen.
- MR. SILIO: Motion to adjourn.
- 14 MR. WEISBORD: So moved.
- THE PRESIDENT: Second?
- 16 MS. TEVLIN-MOFFAT: Second.
- 17 **THE PRESIDENT:** All in favor?
- 18 MR. MUDERICK: Aye.
- MR. WEGBREIT: Aye.
- MR. WEISBORD: Aye.
- MR. SILIO: Aye.
- MR. DIAZ: Aye.
- 23 MS. TEVLIN-MOFFAT: Aye.
- THE PRESIDENT: Aye.
- 25 (At 9:48 p.m., proceedings

1		NARBERTH	BOROUGH	-	COUNCIL	MEETING
2	were	concluded.)				
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I hereby certify that the proceedings and evidence are contained fully and accurately in the notes taken by me in the above cause and that this is a correct transcript of the same.

Tim Kurek

Official Court Reporter

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